

WHAT IS CLAIMED IS:

1. A method for managing caches on a gateway, comprising the steps of:  
periodically checking a set of records in a database, each of said set of records  
5 corresponding to a set of files;  
selecting a record based on said checking;  
contacting a server to update or check status of a set of files corresponding to  
said record; and  
updating said set of files and said record in accordance with a response from  
10 said server.
2. The method of claim 1, wherein said periodically checking includes the steps  
of:  
checking a first field of each record in said database to determine if a set of  
15 files corresponding to said record is up-to-date;  
checking a second field of each record in said database to determine if a next  
version release schedule corresponding to said record has expired; and  
checking a third field of each record to determine if an estimated update  
interval corresponding to said record has occurred.  
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3. The method of claim 1, wherein each of said set of records is sequentially  
checked during said periodically checking step.
4. The method of claim 1, wherein said selecting includes the step of:  
25 selecting a record having a corresponding sets of files that needs a status check  
or an update.
5. The method of claim 1, wherein said contacting a server includes the steps of:  
30 authenticating said set of files;  
establishing a communication session with said server;  
sending an update request or a status check request to said server; and  
receiving an update response or a status check response from said server, said  
update response including at least one difference file and said status check response  
35 including a current version and status of said set of files.

6. The method of claim 5, wherein said updating said set of files includes the steps of:

applying said at least one difference file to said set of files; and  
updating at least one table in said database.

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7. The method of claim 5, wherein said updating said set of files includes the step of:

updating at least one table in said database based on said current version and status of said set of files.

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8. The method of claim 5, further comprising the steps of:

parsing said update response or said status check response for a broadcast message;

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accessing and updating at least one table in said database based on said broadcast message; and  
sending a broadcast response to said server.

9. The method of claim 1, wherein said contacting a server includes the steps of:  
authenticating said set of files;

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establishing a connection with said server;  
downloading a current set of files from said server;  
comparing said current set of files to said set of files; and  
generating at least one difference file or a current version and status based on said comparing.

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10. The method of claim 9, wherein said updating said set of files includes the steps of:

applying said at least one difference file to said set of files; and  
updating at least one table in said database.

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11. The method of claim 9, wherein said updating said set of files includes the steps of:

replacing said set of files by said current set of files;  
storing said at least one difference file; and  
updating at least one table in said database.

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12. The method of claim 9, wherein said updating said set of files includes the step of:

updating at least one table in said database based on said current version and status.

13. A computer program product for use in conjunction with a computer system for managing caches on a gateway, comprising:

logic code for periodically checking a set of records in a database, each of said set of records corresponding to a set of files;

logic code for selecting a record based on said checking;

logic code for contacting a server to update or check status of a set of files corresponding to said record; and

logic code for updating said set of files and said record in accordance with a response from said server.

14. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said logic code for periodically checking includes:

logic code for checking a first field of each record in said database to determine if a set of files corresponding to said record is up-to-date;

logic code for checking a second field of each record in said database to determine if a next version release schedule corresponding to said record has expired; and

logic code for checking a third field of each record to determine if an estimated update interval corresponding to said record has occurred.

15. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said logic code for periodically checking includes logic code for sequentially checking each of said set of records.

16. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said logic code for selecting includes:

logic code for selecting a record having a corresponding sets of files that needs a status check or an update.

17. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said logic code for contacting a server includes:

logic code for authenticating said set of files;

logic code for establishing a communication session with said server;

logic code for sending an update request or a status check request to said server; and

logic code for receiving an update response or a status check response from said server, said update response including at least one difference file and said status check response including a current version and status of said set of files.

18. The computer program product of claim 17, wherein said logic code for updating said set of files includes:

logic code for applying said at least one difference file to said set of files; and

logic code for updating at least one table in said database.

19. The computer program product of claim 17, wherein said logic code for updating said set of files includes:

logic code for updating at least one table in said database based on said current version and status of said set of files.

20. The computer program product of claim 17, further comprising:

logic code for parsing said update response or said status check response for a broadcast message;

logic code for accessing and updating at least one table in said database based on said broadcast message; and

logic code for sending a broadcast response to said server.

21. The computer program product of claim 13, wherein said logic code for contacting a server includes:

logic code for authenticating said set of files;

logic code for establishing a connection with said server;

logic code for downloading a current set of files from said server;

logic code for comparing said current set of files to said set of files; and

logic code for generating at least one difference file or a current version and status based on said comparing.

22. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein said logic code for updating said set of files includes:

5 logic code for applying said at least one difference file to said set of files; and  
logic code for updating at least one table in said database.

23. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein said logic code for updating said set of files includes:

10 logic code for replacing said set of files by said current set of files;  
logic code for storing said at least one difference file; and  
logic code for updating at least one table in said database.

24. The computer program product of claim 21, wherein said logic code for updating said set of files includes:

15 logic code for updating at least one table in said database based on said current version and status.

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